AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (ORIGINAL) A method for decoding a bitstream, comprising the steps of:

(A) generating a first signal and a second signal by parsing a common slice in said bitstream;

(B) generating a third signal by entropy decoding said first signal; and

(C) generating a video signal by combining said second signal and said third signal.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

accepting said common slice containing a plurality of macroblocks, wherein said ~~encoded in a~~ plurality of ~~modes~~ macroblocks switch from non-I PCM mode macroblocks to I PCM mode macroblocks in macroblock scan order.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (B) comprises the sub-step of:

renormalizing said entropy decoding by setting any one of a plurality of predetermined values as a last value for said entropy decoding.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

terminating said entropy decoding by setting any one of a plurality of predetermined values as a last value for said entropy decoding.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

comparing an offset value to a range value.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of:

renormalizing said entropy decoding in response to said offset value being at least as large as said range value.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

demodulating said second signal prior to combining with said third signal.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 7, wherein said demodulating comprises pulse code demodulating.

9. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus comprising:

a parser configured to generate a first signal and a second signal by parsing a common slice in a bitstream;

a decoder configured to generate a third signal by entropy decoding said first signal; and

a circuit configured to generate a video signal by combining said second signal and said third signal.

10. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said entropy decoding comprises a binary arithmetic decoding.

11. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said arithmetic decoding comprises a context-based adaptive binary arithmetic decoding.

12. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a demodulator configured to pulse code demodulate said second signal.

13. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus comprising:

means for generating a first signal and a second signal by parsing a common slice in a bitstream;

means for generating a third signal by entropy decoding said first signal; and

means for generating a video signal by combining said second signal and said third signal.

14. (ORIGINAL) A method for encoding a video signal, comprising the steps of:

(A) generating a first signal and a second signal by parsing said video signal;

(B) generating a third signal by entropy encoding said first signal; and

(C) generating a bitstream by combining said second signal and said third signal within a common slice.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 14, wherein further comprising the step of:

generating said common slice ~~using~~ comprising pulse code modulation (PCM) coded data and non-PCM coded data ~~in a plurality of modes~~.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, wherein step (B) comprises the sub-step of:

renormalizing said entropy encoding by setting any one of a plurality of predetermined bit patterns as a last value for said entropy encoding.

17. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 16, wherein said predetermined bit patterns comprise a mode for non-encoded pulse code modulated data.

18. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

terminating said entropy encoding by setting any one of a plurality of predetermined values as a last bit for said entropy encoding.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

~~modulating~~ encoding data in said second signal by pulse code modulation (PCM).

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

generating a fourth signal and a fifth signal by parsing said common slice in said bitstream;

generating a sixth signal by entropy decoding said fourth signal; and

generating a copy of said video signal by combining said fifth signal and said sixth signal.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said common slice comprises one or more macroblocks encoded using arithmetic entropy coding (AC) and one or more macroblocks encoded using pulse code modulation (PCM).

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 21, wherein said arithmetic entropy coding comprises context-based adaptive binary arithmetic coding (CABAC).

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said demodulator is further configured to pulse code demodulate said second signal in a first mode and pass said second signal in a second mode.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 14, wherein said second signal comprises pulse code modulated (PCM) data, said third signal comprises arithmetic entropy coded (AC) data and generating said bitstream comprises ~~selected~~ selecting

either said pulse code modulated data or said arithmetic entropy coded data for each macroblock of said common slice.

Please add the following new claims:

25. (NEW) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

parsing any of three potential syntax elements contained in the group consisting of a RBSP_STOP_ONE_BIT, a PCM_ALIGNMENT_ZERO_BIT, and a PCM_BYTE following a context-based adaptive binary arithmetic coding (CABAC) termination.

26. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said parser is further configured to parse any of three potential syntax elements contained in the group consisting of a RBSP_STOP_ONE_BIT, a PCM_ALIGNMENT_ZERO_BIT, and a PCM_BYTE following a context-based adaptive binary arithmetic coding (CABAC) termination.